

## CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

*Sub A*

1 1. A system for remotely monitoring an individual, the  
2 *sub A* system comprising:  
3 a) a server;  
4 b) a remote interface means for entering in the server a  
5 set of queries to be answered by the individual; and  
6 c) a remotely programmable apparatus for interacting with  
7 the individual, the apparatus being in communication  
8 with the server via a communication network;  
9 wherein the server comprises:  
10 i) a script generating means for generating a script  
11 program from the set of queries, the script program  
12 being executable by the apparatus to communicate the  
13 queries to the individual, to receive responses to the  
14 queries, and to transmit the responses from the  
15 apparatus to the server; and  
16 ii) a database means connected to the script generating  
17 means for storing the script program and the responses  
18 to the queries;  
19 and wherein the apparatus comprises:  
20 i) a communication means for receiving the script  
21 program from the server and for transmitting the  
22 responses to the server;  
23 ii) a user interface means for communicating the queries  
24 to the individual and for receiving the responses to  
25 the queries;  
26 iii) a memory means for storing the script program and  
27 the responses to the queries; and  
28 iv) a processor means connected to the communication  
29 means, the user interface means, and the memory  
30 means for executing the script program to  
31 communicate the queries to the individual, to

32 receive the responses to the queries, and to  
33 transmit the responses to the server.

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1 2. The system of claim 1, wherein the server comprises a  
2 web server having a web page for entry of the queries,  
3 and wherein the remote interface means is connected to  
4 the web server via the Internet.  
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1 3. The system of claim 1, wherein the user interface  
2 means comprises a display for displaying the queries  
3 and user input buttons for entering the responses.

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1 4. The system of claim 1, wherein the user interface  
2 means includes a speech synthesis means for audibly  
3 communicating the queries to the individual.

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1 5. The system of claim 1, wherein the user interface  
2 means includes a speech recognition means for  
3 receiving spoken responses to the queries.

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1 6. The system of claim 1, further comprising at least one  
2 monitoring device for producing measurements of a  
3 physiological condition of the individual and for  
4 transmitting the measurements to the apparatus,  
5 wherein the apparatus further includes device  
6 interface means connected to the processor means for  
7 receiving the measurements from the monitoring device,  
8 the memory means includes means for storing the  
9 measurements, and the communication means includes  
10 means for transmitting the measurements to the server.

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1 7. The system of claim 6, wherein the device  
2 interface means includes means for interfacing  
3 with a plurality of monitoring devices, and the

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cont.

## what is claimed is :

4 script program specifies a selected monitoring  
5 device from which to collect the measurements.

1 8. The system of claim 6, wherein the server further  
2 comprises report means for displaying the  
3 responses and the measurements on the remote  
4 interface means.

1 9. The system of claim 1, wherein the communication means  
2 includes means for establishing a first communication  
3 link to the server to receive the script program and  
4 means for establishing a subsequent communication link  
5 to the server to transmit the responses, and wherein  
6 the script program specifies a connection time at  
7 which to establish the subsequent communication link.

1 10. The system of claim 1, wherein the apparatus further  
2 *as* includes notification means connected to the processor  
3 means for notifying the individual that unanswered  
4 queries are stored in the apparatus.

1 11. The system of claim 10, wherein the notification  
2 means comprises a visual indicator for visually  
3 notifying the individual.

1 12. The system of claim 10, wherein the notification  
2 means comprises a display for displaying a prompt.

1 13. The system of claim 1, further comprising a plurality  
2 *as* of remotely programmable apparatuses in communication  
3 with the server for remotely monitoring a  
4 corresponding plurality of individuals, wherein the  
5 database means includes means for storing a plurality  
6 of script programs, the remote interface means  
7 includes means for entering script assignment

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cont.*

8 information, the server includes script assignment  
9 means connected to the database means for assigning to  
10 each of the individuals at least one of the script  
11 programs in accordance with the script assignment  
12 information, and the database means further includes  
13 means for storing a list of the individuals, and for  
14 each of the individuals, a respective pointer to the  
15 script program assigned to the individual.

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1 14. A method for remotely monitoring an individual, the  
2 method comprising the following steps:  
3 a) providing the individual with an apparatus having:  
4 i) a communication means for exchanging data with a  
5 server through a communication network, wherein  
6 the data includes a script program executable by  
7 the apparatus to communicate queries to the  
8 individual, to receive responses to the queries,  
9 and to transmit the responses to the server;  
10 ii) a memory means for storing the script program  
11 and the responses to the queries;  
12 iii) a user interface means for communicating the  
13 queries to the individual and for receiving the  
14 responses to the queries; and  
15 iv) a processor means connected to the communication  
16 means, the user interface means, and the memory  
17 means for executing the script program;  
18 b) entering in the server the queries to be answered by  
19 the individual;  
20 c) generating the script program from the queries;  
21 d) transmitting the script program from the server to the  
22 apparatus through the communication network;  
23 e) executing the script program in the apparatus to  
24 communicate the queries, to receive the responses, and  
25 to transmit the responses to the server; and  
26 f) receiving and storing the responses in the server.

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1 15. The method of claim 14, wherein the server comprises a  
2 web server having a web page for entry of the queries,  
3 and wherein the queries are entered by accessing the  
4 web page through the Internet and entering the queries  
5 in the web page.

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1 16. The method of claim 14, wherein the apparatus further  
2 comprises a device interface connected to the  
3 processor means for receiving from a monitoring device  
4 measurements of a physiological condition of the  
5 individual, and wherein the method further comprises  
6 the steps of:

7 a) collecting the measurements in the apparatus  
8 through the device interface;  
9 b) transmitting the measurements from the apparatus  
10 to the server; and  
11 c) receiving and storing the measurements in the  
12 server.

13

1 17. The method of claim 16, wherein the device  
2 interface includes means for interfacing with a  
3 plurality of monitoring devices, the script  
4 program specifies a selected monitoring device  
5 from which to collect the measurements, and the  
6 method further comprises the step of prompting the  
7 individual to connect the selected monitoring  
8 device to the device interface.

9

1 18. The method of claim 16, further comprising the  
2 step of reporting on a remote interface the  
3 responses and measurements received in the server.

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1 19. The method of claim 14, wherein the script program is  
2 transmitted from the server to the apparatus through a

3 first communication link, the responses to the queries  
4 are transmitted from the apparatus to the server  
5 through a subsequent communication link, and the  
6 script program specifies a connection time at which to  
7 establish the subsequent communication link.

1 20. The method of claim 14, further comprising the step of  
2 notifying the individual when unanswered queries are  
3 stored in the apparatus.

1 21. The method of claim 20, wherein the apparatus  
2 further comprises a visual indicator connected to  
3 the processor means and the step of notifying the  
4 individual comprises lighting the visual  
5 indicator.

1 22. The method of claim 20, wherein the apparatus  
2 further comprises a display connected to the  
3 processor means and the step of notifying the  
4 individual comprises displaying a prompt on the  
5 display.

1 23. The method of claim 14, wherein the user interface  
2 means comprises a display and input buttons, and  
3 wherein the queries are communicated through the  
4 display and the responses are received through the  
5 input buttons.

1 24. The method of claim 14, wherein the user interface  
2 means includes a speech synthesizer, and wherein the  
3 queries are communicated through the speech  
4 synthesizer.

1 25. The method of claim 14, wherein the user interface  
2 means includes a speech recognizer, and wherein the  
3 responses are received through the speech recognizer.

4

1 26. The method of claim 14, further comprising the steps  
2 of:

3 a) providing a plurality of individuals with a  
4 corresponding plurality of apparatuses such that  
5 each of the individuals is associated with a  
6 respective one of the apparatuses;  
7 b) entering in the server a plurality of sets of  
8 queries;  
9 c) generating in the server a plurality of script  
10 programs such that each of the script programs  
11 corresponds to a respective one of the sets of  
12 queries;  
13 d) assigning to each of the individuals at least one  
14 of the script programs;  
15 e) storing in the server the script programs, a list  
16 of the individuals, and for each of the  
17 individuals, a respective pointer to the script  
18 program assigned to the individual; and  
19 f) transmitting to each of the apparatuses the script  
20 program assigned to the individual associated with  
21 the apparatus.

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1 27. A system for communicating information to an individual,  
2 the system comprising:

3 a) a server;  
4 b) a remote interface means connected to the server for  
5 specifying a message to be communicated to the  
6 individual; and  
7 c) a remotely programmable apparatus for communicating  
8 the message to the individual, the apparatus being  
9 networked to the server via a communication network;

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10        wherein the server includes a script generating means for  
11        generating a script program executable by the  
12        apparatus to communicate the message to the  
13        individual;

14        and wherein the apparatus comprises:

- 15        i) a communication means for receiving the script  
16        program from the server;
- 17        iii) a memory means for storing the script program;
- 18        ii) a user interface means for communicating the  
19        message to the individual; and
- 20        iv) a processor means connected to the communication  
21        means, the user interface means, and the memory  
22        means for executing the script program.

23  
1        28. The system of claim 27, wherein the server further  
2        includes database means connected to the script  
3        generating means for storing data relating to the  
4        individual, and wherein the script generating means  
5        includes means for inserting the data into the script  
6        program to customize the message to the individual.

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7        29. The system of claim 27, wherein the server comprises a  
1        web server, and wherein the remote interface means is  
2        connected to the web server via the Internet.

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4        30. The system of claim 27, wherein the user interface  
1        means comprises a display for displaying the message  
2        to the individual.

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4        31. The system of claim 27, wherein the user interface  
1        means comprises a speech synthesis means for audibly  
2        communicating the message to the individual.

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4        32. The system of claim 27, wherein the communication  
1        means includes means for establishing a first

1 communication link to the server to receive a first  
2 script program and means for establishing a subsequent  
3 communication link to the server to receive a new  
4 script program, and wherein the first script program  
5 specifies a connection time at which to establish the  
6 subsequent communication link.  
7  
8

9  
1 *Sub a 9* 33. The system of claim 27, wherein the apparatus further  
2 *a9* includes notification means connected to the processor  
3 means for notifying the individual that a new message  
4 has been received.

5  
1 *36.* 34. The system of claim 33, wherein the notification  
2 means comprises a visual indicator for visually  
3 notifying the individual.

4  
1 *39.* 35. The system of claim 33, wherein the notification  
2 means comprises a display for displaying a prompt.

3  
1 *39. a10* 36. The system of claim 27, further comprising a plurality  
2 of remotely programmable apparatuses networked to the  
3 server for communicating information to a  
4 corresponding plurality of individuals, wherein the  
5 server includes database means for storing a plurality  
6 of script programs, the remote interface means  
7 includes means for entering in the server script  
8 assignment information, the server includes script  
9 assignment means connected to the database means for  
10 assigning to each of the individuals at least one of  
11 the script programs in accordance with the script  
12 assignment information, and the database means further  
13 includes means for storing a list of the individuals,  
14 and for each of the individuals, a respective pointer  
15 to the script program assigned to the individual.  
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1 37. A method for communicating information to an individual,  
2 the method comprising the following steps:  
3 a) providing the individual with an apparatus having:  
4 i) a communication means for exchanging data with a  
5 server through a communication network, wherein  
6 the data includes a script program executable by  
7 the apparatus to communicate a message to the  
8 individual;  
9 ii) a memory means for storing the script program;  
10 iii) a user interface for communicating the message;  
11 and  
12 iv) a processor means connected to the communication  
13 means, the memory means, and the user interface  
14 for executing the script program;  
15 b) entering in the server the message to be communicated  
16 to the individual;  
17 c) generating the script program in the server;  
18 d) transmitting the script program from the server to the  
19 apparatus through the communication network; and  
20 e) executing the script program in the apparatus to  
21 communicate the message to the individual.

1 38. The method of claim 37, wherein the step of  
2 *all* transmitting the script program from the server to the  
3 apparatus is preceded by the steps of storing in the  
4 server data relating to the individual and inserting  
5 the data into the script program to customize the  
6 message to the individual.

1 39. The method of claim 37, wherein the server comprises a  
2 web server having a web page for entry of the message,  
3 and wherein the message is entered in the server by  
4 accessing the web page through the Internet and  
5 entering the message in the web page.

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1 40. The method of claim 37, wherein the script program is  
2 transmitted from the server to the apparatus through a  
3 first communication link, the script program specifies  
4 a connection time at which the apparatus is to  
5 establish a subsequent communication link to the  
6 server, and the method further comprises the steps of  
7 establishing the subsequent communication link at the  
8 specified connection time and receiving a new script  
9 program in the apparatus through the subsequent  
10 communication link.

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1 41. The method of claim 37, further comprising the step of  
2 notifying the individual when a new message has been  
3 received in the apparatus.

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1 42. The method of claim 41, wherein the apparatus  
2 further comprises a visual indicator connected to  
3 the processor means and the step of notifying the  
4 individual comprises lighting the visual  
5 indicator.

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1 43. The method of claim 41, wherein the apparatus  
2 further comprises a display connected to the  
3 processor means and the step of notifying the  
4 individual comprises displaying a prompt on the  
5 display.

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1 44. The method of claim 37, wherein the user interface  
2 comprises a display, and the step of communicating the  
3 message to the individual comprises displaying the  
4 message on the display

1 45. The method of claim 37, wherein the user interface  
2 comprises a speech synthesizer, and the step of  
3 communicating the message to the individual comprises

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4 audibly synthesizing the message through the speech  
5 synthesizer.

1 46. The method of claim 37, further comprising the steps  
2 of:

3 a) providing a plurality of individuals with a  
4 corresponding plurality of apparatuses such that  
5 each of the individuals is associated with a  
6 respective one of the apparatuses;  
7 b) generating in the server a plurality of script  
8 programs;  
9 c) assigning to each of the individuals at least one  
10 of the script programs;  
11 d) storing in the server the script programs, a list  
12 of the individuals, and for each of the  
13 individuals, a respective pointer to the script  
14 program assigned to the individual; and  
15 e) transmitting to each of the apparatuses the script  
16 program assigned to the individual associated with  
17 the apparatus.

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